

Remarks:

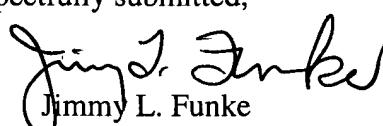
1. Claim 7 has been amended to remove the term “bipolar”. Applicants use the term “bipolar” throughout their specification to mean a cell having two (bi) poles or polarities. Although the term bipolar has sometimes been used to mean that adjacent positive and negative electrodes of adjacent cells are in electrical contact with each other, this is clearly not the case in the instant application where all of the electrodes have a separator layer between them. In any case, the term is unnecessary to define and claim applicant’s invention, and it has accordingly been removed. Claim 7 has also been amended to particularly point out that the method includes attaching each of the anodes and cathodes to the respective anode and cathode terminal.
2. Claims 7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hossain, U.S. Patent 5,595,839.
 - a. Applicants respectfully point out that the structure of Hossain is not the same as the cells of the instant application. The instant application claims a plurality of lithium cells, wherein the anode of each cell is attached to the anode terminal and the cathode of each cell is attached to the cathode terminal. In Hossain, the electrodes are electrically isolated from each other by electrically-insulating seal members which join together in a sealed, stacked array (Col 2, lines 35-40). This is further illustrated in Hossain Figure 1, which shows the seal members on the outside diameter (the stack is round), the single anode terminal 29 and single cathode terminal 20’, each terminal connected to a single (end) cell of the stack. In contradistinction, the instant application shows in Figure 4, all of the cathodes

attached to the cathode terminal 44. Applicants contend that claim 7 as amended is allowable.

- b. Applicants also point out that although not well illustrated by the figures, the structure of Hossain is cylindrical as taught in Figure 3, in Col 2, line 40 (rings), in Col. 4, line 1, and in Col. 6, lines 25-26 and 34-36. Hence, Hossain could not possibly anticipate the rectangular sleeve of claim 11. For this reason, and the reasons listed in point 2(b), applicants contend that claim 11 is allowable.
3. Claim 8 depends from claim 7, therefore for at least the reasons noted above should be allowable.
4. Claim 9 depends from claim 7, therefore for at least the reasons noted above should be allowable.
5. Claim 10 has already been found to be allowable.
6. Applicants believe that these actions place this case in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Although no fees are believed due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0831 for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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